Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STR-07 COME-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /108 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OT/STA:W T DIROLL:MEH APPROVED BY EB/OT:S AHMAD STR:S LANDE COMMERCE:J FISHER EB/OT/STA:T O'HERRON

-----058035 272213Z /64

O 272138Z JUN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY TAIPEI AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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GENEVA PASS JOEL SPIRO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD, HK

SUBJECT: NONRUBBER FOOTWEAR: HONG KONG CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 135551, (B) HONG KONG 7441,

(C) HONG KONG 7034

FAVORABLE REPLY TO USG REQUEST FOR BILATERAL FOOTWEAR CONSULTATIONS AND HKG SUGGESTIONS AS REGARDS TIME AND VENUE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ARE APPRECIATED. HOWEVER, DUE TO MTN ACTIVITIES, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR THE USG TO AGREE TO MEET IN HONG KONG BEFORE JULY 24 AT THE EARLIEST, IF THEN. THE HONG KONG PATTERN OF TRADE IN FOOTWEAR IS CHANGING RAPIDLY AND WE WOULD PREFER TO INITIATE EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS BEFORE JULY 17. A MONTH HAS ELAPSED SINCE WE REQUESTED CONSULTATIONS. YOU SHOULD, THEREFORE, APPROACH THE APPROPRIATE

TCI OFFICIAL AND, NOTING THAT MILLS WILL BE IN EUROPE IN THE EARLY PART OF JULY (REFTEL C), STATE THAT ASSISTANT SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE LANDE WILL ALSO BE THERE AT THAT TIME AND IF AGREEABLE TO HKG, WOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET WITH MILLS SOMETIME DURING THE PERIOD JULY 3 THROUGH JULY 17 IN EUROPE. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WOULD BE TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES FOR RESOLVING THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY THE RAPID RISE IN HONG KONG SHIPMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES MARKET. POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO BE EXPLORED COULD INCLUDE EXPORT LICENSES TO PREVENT CIRCUMVENTION OF OMA'S (SEE SEPTEL ON THIS SUBJECT) OR ARRANGEMENTS SIMILAR TO THE ONES NEGOTIATED RECENTLY WITH JAPAN ON TV'S OR KOREA AND TAIWAN ON SHOES. WOULD APPRECIATE REPLY ASAP. PLEASE REPEAT YOUR REPLY TO US MISSION GENEVA CAPTIONED FOR THE ATTENTION OF ASSISTANT STR LANDE AND JOEL SPIRO. VANCE

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